

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-05 OMB-01 EB-07 /099 W

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R 241152Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8311

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 5516

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, IN, SK

SUBJECT: SIKKIM

REF: NEW DELHI 5359

1. THE INDIAN LOWER HOUSE (LOK SABHA) ON APRIL 23 APPROVED THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT BILL TO MAKE SIKKIM A FULL STATE OF THE INDIAN UNION BY A 299 TO 11 VOTE. THE MEASURE MUST NOW GO TO THE UPPER HOUSE AND THEN TO THE SEVERAL STATE LEGISLATURES BEFORE IT BECOMES LAW.

2. DURING THE DEBATE THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS REPORTEDLY SAID AMIDST CHERS: "IT IS A POLITICAL FACT TODAY THAT THE INSTITUTION OF THE CHOGYAL, BY THE ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION AND PEOPLE'S MANDATE, HAS BEEN ABOLISHED." CHAVAN CONTINUED, "WE ARE NOT DEALING WITH SOME SORT OF NORMAL LEGALISTIC SITUATION. WE ARE DEALING WITH, IF I MAY

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SAY SO, SOME SORT OF REVOLUTIONARY POLITICAL SITUATION."

IN REFERRING TO THE CHOGYAL, CHAVAN CONTENDED THE GOI TRIED TO AFFECT A RECONCILIATION BETWEEN THE CHOGYAL AND THE PEOPLE, BUT IT WAS NOT SUCCESSFUL SINCE THE CHOGYAL WAS AN ANACHRONISTIC FEUDAL HEAD. CHAVAN CHARGED THE CHOGYAL DID NOT ACCEPT HIS CONSTITUTIONAL POSITION, BUT ATTEMPTED TO SUBVERT THE ENTIRE CONSTITUTION.

3. PRESS REPORTS ASSERT THAT MRS. GANDHI HAS SENT A RESPONSE TO THE CHOGYAL IN REPLY TO HIS RECENT MESSAGES. SHE REPORTEDLY URGED HIM TO TAKE A REALISTIC ATTITUDE AND ACCEPT THE PEOPLE'S WISHES. THE LETTER ALLEGEDLY REITERATES THE GOI'S GOOD WILL TOWARD THE CHOGYAL AND HIS FAMILY DESPITE HIS RECENT ACTIVITIES. SAXBE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ANNEXATION, CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS, FORM OF GOVERNMENT, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NEWDE05516
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750144-0337
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750421/aaaaasze.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 NEW DELHI 5359
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <03 FEB 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SIKKIM
TAGS: PINS, IN, SK, (CHAVAN, Y B)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006